

Davis County Health Department

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DAVIS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Communicable Disease & Epidemiology Division

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Health Update

January 26, 2011

Influenza Vaccination Rates are Low in Davis County

The Northern Utah Immunization Coalition is concerned about reports of decreased flu vaccination demand from the three local health departments in Northern Utah. Davis County Health Department, Weber-Morgan County Health Department and Bear River County Health Department all report very low demand and requests for influenza vaccine compared to last year.

The low flu vaccination rate in our community poses a risk of spread of influenza disease. Now that influenza season is upon us, more people are susceptible to the disease. It is unknown why demand for flu vaccination is lower this season. Many people may believe that they are protected from the H1N1 virus because of the successful mass vaccination efforts last year. Though this is partially true, the current influenza vaccine provides protection against other influenza strains, specifically Type A H3N2 and Type B, which are both circulating in Davis County this year.

During typical years influenza activity begins in January, peaks in February and can linger until May. So far this season, 16 hospitalized cases have been reported among Davis County residents and 9 of these cases (56%) were less than 10 years of age.

Please encourage your patients to get the influenza vaccine if they have not already done so this season. Your commitment in assisting with flu vaccination efforts helps in the protection of our community. If flu vaccine is no longer available in your clinic, please refer your patients to the Davis County Health Department or another vaccine provider. We thank you for your efforts.

Influenza vaccine is available at either of the Davis County Health Department's Clinics:

Clearfield Clinic

Hours: M/W/F 8:00-4:30 (closed for lunch from 11:45-1:00) 22 South State Street Clearfield, UT 84015 (801) 525-5020

Bountiful/Woods Cross Clinic

Hours: T/TH 8:00-4:30 (closed for lunch from 11:45-1:00) 596 W. 750 S. Woods Cross, UT 84010 (801) 298-3919

Cases of influenza which require inpatient hospitalization are reportable in Utah. Please report these cases to the Davis County Health Department, Health Care Provider Disease Reporting Line (801) 525-5220. Reports may also be faxed to (801) 525-5210.

The Davis County Health Department has Moved! Please make a note of our new contact information above